



United States Courts for the Ninth Circuit

Public Information Office

David Madden, Manager • (415) 556-6177 • (415) 556-6179 fax • dmadden@ce9.uscourts.gov

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: David Madden, (415) 556-6177

Senate Confirms Carlos T. Bea to Serve on Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals

SAN FRANCISCO – The United States Senate late Monday (Sept. 29) confirmed President Bush's nomination of San Francisco Superior Court Judge Carlos T. Bea to serve on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Judge Bea, 69, was confirmed by the full Senate on a vote of 86-0 with 14 senators not voting. He had been nominated April 11, was approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee in Washington, D.C., on Sept. 25.

Judge Bea will fill a vacancy on the Court of Appeals created Dec. 31, 1996, when Judge Charles E. Wiggins (deceased), also of California, took senior status. He will maintain chambers in San Francisco.

Born in San Sebastian, Spain, Judge Bea has served on the San Francisco Superior Court since 1990. He received his undergraduate degree from Stanford University (1956) and his J.D. from Stanford University Law School (1958). Prior to his appointment to the Superior Court bench, he maintained a private law practice in San Francisco.

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals is authorized 28 judgeships. With the confirmation of Judge Bea, the court now has 27 active judges. Nominations are pending in the Senate for one vacant judgeship, and for one future vacancy scheduled to occur in November.

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals hears cases originating in nine western states and two Pacific Island jurisdictions. The court sits regularly in Seattle, San Francisco and Pasadena, and in Portland several times a year. Special sittings also are held in various locations around the circuit.

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